Message Text

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TAGS: PFOR, UR, CH, JA

SUBJ: KOSYGIN INTERVIEW IN JAPANESE PRESS

SUMMARY: FIRST EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW EVER GIVEN JAPANESE PRESS REPRESENTATIVE BY KOSYGIN SPOTLIGHTED ASIAN COLLECTIVE PEACE AND SECURITY PLAN. ALSO COVERED IN VERBATIM ACCOUNT OF OCT 23 CONVERSATION WITH ASAHI VICE PRESIDENT WATANABE WERE BILATERAL PEACE NEOGITATIONS, ECONOMIC COOPERATION, NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT AND RELATIONS WITH PRC. THOUGH INTERVIEW KEEPS SOVIET POSITIONS BEFORE JAPANESE PUBLIC, ARTICLE NOT LIKELY TO PROVIDE MUCH MORE THAN FILLER IN A POLITICAL RELATIONSHIP THAT HAS BEEN NOTABLY DEVOID OF SUBSTANCE LATELY. END SUMMARY.

1. GIVING CONFERENCES ON EUROPEAN PEACE AND SECURITY AND MUTUAL AND BALANCED FORCE REDUCTION AS EXAMPLES, KOSYGIN SUGGESTED THAT CONCLUSION OF AN ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY PLAN WAS A LONG-RANGE PROJECT THAT WOULD NECESSARILY BE CONFIDENTIAL

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BUILT UPON A SERIES OF BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL PRE-

PARATORY TALKS. QUOTING BREZHNEV, HE REACHED BACK INTO HISTORY, SAYING THAT SOME OF PRINCIPLES OF A PROSPECTIVE ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY PLAN WERE FIRST ADVOCATED AT BANDUNG.

- 2. LONG ON HISTORICAL ALLUSION, BUT SHORT ON SUBSTANCE, KOSYGIN SAID THE SOVIET PROPOSAL "WOULD BE AN ARANGE-MENT AMONG ASIAN'S SOVEREIGN NATIONS WITH EQUAL RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES TO ASSURE A LASTING PEACE."
- 3. ASNWERING QUESTION ON FEASIBILITY OF REACHING AN ASIAN COLLECTIVE PEACE AND SECURITY ARRANGEMENT WITHOUT CHINESE PARTICIPATION, KOSYGIN SAID THAT ALTHOUGH EFFECTIVENESS OF SUCH AN ARRANGEMENT WOULD OF COURSE BE GREATEST WITH FULL ASIAN PARTICIPATION, IT WOULD BE UNREASONABLE TO SAY THAT ERECTION OF SYSTEM COULD NOT PROCEED WITHOUT PARTICIPATION OF ALL ASIAN NATIONS ESPECIALLY IN VIEW OF IMMENSITY OF ASIA. ALSO SETTLEMENT OF AN ASIAN SECURITY ARRANGEMENT DOES NOT REQUIRE SETTLEMENT OF VARIOUS INDIVIDUAL AND TEMPORARY BILATERAL PROBLEMS BETWEEN ASIAN NATIONS.
- 4. KOSYGIN DISCLAIMED SELFISH MOTIVATION ON PART OF SOVIETS, SAYING THAT USSR IS ALWAYS AWARE OF INTERESTS OF OTHERS AND THAT TREATY WOULD OF COURSE NOT CONFERE SPECIAL POWERS OR RIGHTS ON ANY SIGNATORY. FUTIRE STATUS OF US-JPANA MUTUAL SECURITY TREATY WAS RAISED IN NEITHER Q NOR A.
- 5. PEACE TREATY: KOSYGIN ASSERTED THAT SOVIETS ARE FOLLOWING UP ON PLEDGE TO CONTINUE NEGOTIATIONS ON A PEACE TREATY INCLUDED IN LAST FALL'S TANAKA-BREZHNEV COMMUNIQUE BY INVITING FONMIN KIMURA TO VISIT USSR FOR NEGOTIATIONS ON PEACE TREATY AND DISCUSSION OF OTHER ISSUES. HOWEVER, IT IS STILL TOO EARLY TO DISCUSS SPECIFICS OF NEOGITATIONS, ACCORDING TO KOSYGIN. (ACCORDING TO RECENT FONOFF PRESS BREIFING KIMURA WILL PROBABLY JOURNEY TO MOSCOW EARLY IN 1975). THERE WAS NO DIRECT MENTION OF NORTHERN TERRITORIES PROBLEM IN EITHE Q OR A.

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6. ECONOMIC COOPERATION: MAJOR STRESS WAS LAID ON ROLE OF ECONOMIC COOPERATION AS CONTRIBUTION TOWARD DETENTE AND LASTING PEACE. CURRENT AND PROJECTED SIBERIAN AGREEMENTS WERE DISCUSSED. IN REPLY TO QUESTION ABOUT US PARTICIPATION ALONG WITH JAPAN IN SUCH GIANT PROJECTS AS TYUMENI OIL FIELDS, KOSYGIN ASSURED INTERVIEWER THAT USSR WAS ON RECORD AS WELCOMING BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION ON BASIS OF MUTUALITY, NOTING THAT USSR

ALREADY HAS A RECORD OF WORKING EFFECTIVELY WITH US AND JAPAN BUSINESS INTERESTS.

7. NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT: KOSYGIN CITED SOVIET RATIFICATION OF NPT, NON-PROLIFERATION AND SALT I AGREEMENTS AS A SIGN THAT DEFINITE PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE IN SOVIET EFFORT TOWARD NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT. HE INVITED JAPANESE TO CONTRIBUTE TO NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT EFFORT BY RATIFYING VARIOUS INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS. NO MENTION WAS MADE OF LAROCQUE STATEMENT CONTROVERSY IN EITHER Q OR A.

8. CHINA: DESPITE ANTI-SOVIET POLICIES OF PEKING LEADER-SHIP, USSR AIMS FOR AND IS WORKING TOWARDS NORMALIZATION OF SINO-SOVIET RELATIONS AND RESTORATION OF FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN PEOPLES OF CHINA AND SOVIET.

9. COMMENT: INTEFVIEW GAVE MOST EXTENSIVE EXPOSURE TO USSR'S ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY PLAN SEEN IN JAPAN IN A LONG TIME. IN ABSENCE OF PROMISED SUMMIT TALKS THIS YEAR IN TOKYO OR PROSPECT FOR MUCH PROGRESS IN PEACE TREATY NEGOTIATIONS, INTERVIEW WAS BETTER THAN NOTHING AT ALL AS ATTEMPT TO IMPRESS UPON JAPANESE THAT SOVIETS ALSO HAVE CONCEPT WHICH WILL PROMOTE ASINA PEACE AND STABILITY. THOUGH IT PROVIDES FILLER IN RELATIONSHIP THAT HAS BEEN NOTABLY DEVOID OF POLITICAL SUBSTANCE RECENTLY, JAPANESE OF WHATEVER POLITICAL PERSUASION ARE UNLIKELY TO BE VERY IMPRESSED WITH STATEMENT.

10. FULL TEXT IN OCT 26-29 SUMMARY OF JAPANESE PRESS. COPY WILL BE POUCHED TO MOSCOW. HODGSON

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